

**Village of Indian Head Park
201 Acacia Drive
Indian Head Park, IL 60525**

**MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

“Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2.06 (3) minutes of public meetings shall include, but need not be limited to: a general description of all matters proposed, discussed, or decided, and a record of votes taken.”

**Thursday, June 11, 2009
7:30 P.M.**

★ CALL TO ORDER - MAYOR RICHARD ANDREWS

The regular scheduled meeting of the Village of Indian Head Park Board of Trustees was held on Thursday, June 11, 2009 at the Municipal Facility, 201 Acacia Drive, and was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Richard Andrews. Village Clerk Joseph Consolo called the roll as follows:

★ ROLL CALL: JOSEPH CONSOLO, VILLAGE CLERK

PRESENT (AND CONSTITUTING A QUORUM):

Mayor Richard Andrews
Trustee Debbie Anselmo
Trustee Brian T. Bailey
Trustee Anne Bermier
Trustee Carol Coleman
Trustee Norman L. Schnauffer
Trustee Matthew P. Walsh II

ALSO PRESENT:

Frank Alonzo, Chief of Police/Administration
Dave Brink, Finance Director
Steve Busa, Treasurer
Joseph V. Consolo, Village Clerk
Richard Ramello, Counsel, Storino, Ramello & Durkin
Edward Santen, Water/Public Works Superintendent

★ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Mayor Richard Andrews and the Board of Trustees led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: *“I Pledge Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God indivisible with liberty and justice for all”*.

★ **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Andrews and the Board of Trustees paused for a moment of silence in memory of Village counsel Richard Ramello's parents, Elmo and Alfredo Ramello, who both passed away suddenly on Memorial Day. Counsel Ramello thanked the Board and everyone for their support during this difficult time for his family.

Mayor Andrews stated that Flag Day is June 14th and he asked everyone to fly a flag and to perhaps pay someone a compliment in memory of all that are serving in the armed forces around the world on our behalf. Mayor Andrews thanked the Village of Indian Head Park Woman's Club Philanthropy Committee and Trustee Coleman for the generous donation of \$200.00 to the Indian Head Park Heritage Center.

Mayor Andrews stated that the zoning petition request for an amendment to the Ashbrook Development Planned Unit Development regarding an in-ground swimming pool at 11145 Ashbrook Lane will be continued to the July 7, 2009 Planning and Zoning Commission meeting.

Mayor Andrews reported that state representatives are working to try to obtain additional funding for various projects in Indian Head Park pursuant to the state's capital improvement program that was passed.

Mayor Andrews noted that a letter was received from Mayor Silvestri of Elmwood Park and Mayor Marilyn May of River Grove concerning the traveling Vietnam Memorial Wall that will be on display in the Village of Elmwood Park High School on July 2nd through July 5th. He noted that admission is free to anyone who is interested in attending.

Mayor Andrews stated the transition from analog to digital will take place with the cable channels on June 12th and the transition period will occur throughout the day in different areas. He noted that additional information regarding the cable transition to digital services may be obtained from the following website: dtv.gov.

Mayor Andrews stated that a matter was brought to his attention regarding the Flagg Creek Water Reclamation District and the work that is taking place near 47th Street and the tollroad. The sanitary sewer work and overflow could impact other neighboring communities. He noted that the Village is working with the West Central Municipal Conference to address these issues.

★ **APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT - TREASURER STEVE BUSA**

Treasurer Busa presented the financial report for the month ending May 31, 2009. For the month of May, he noted: (1) total revenues were \$226,390.46; (2) expenditures were \$265,427.14 and; (3) total fund balances in all accounts at the end of May were \$521,921.87.

Trustee Schnaufer moved, seconded by Trustee Anselmo, to approve the financial report for the month ending May 31, 2009, as presented by Treasurer Busa. Carried by unanimous roll call vote (6/0/0).

Ayes: Trustees: Anselmo, Bailey, Bermier, Coleman, Schnaufer, Walsh

Nays: None

Absent: None

★ **CONSENT AGENDA**

Approval of Ordinance Establishing Prevailing Wage Rates for the Village of Indian Head Park for 2009/2010 (Ordinance #09-7)

Reappointment of Joan Pieri as the Village's Representative to S.E.A.S.P.A.R. for the term ending June 1, 2010

Reappointment of Matthew Walsh to the E-911 Board for the term ending June 13, 2010

Reappointment of Carol Coleman to the E-911 Board for the term ending June 13, 2010

Reappointment of Joseph Consolo to the E-911 Board for the term ending June 13, 2010

Reappointment of Fire Chief Dan Hermes to the E-911 Board for the term ending June 13, 2010

Mayor Andrews entertained a motion to approve the consent agenda items. Trustee Walsh moved, seconded by Trustee Anselmo, to approve the consent agenda as presented. Carried by unanimous roll call vote. (6/0/0).

Ayes: Trustees: Anselmo, Bailey, Bermier, Coleman, Schnaufer, Walsh

Nays: None

Absent: None

★ **APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting - May 14, 2009

After review of Board meeting minutes, Trustee Coleman moved, seconded by Trustee Bermier, to approve the May 14, 2009 regular Board meeting minutes, as presented. Carried by unanimous voice vote (6/0/0).

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Discussion and Possible Vote Concerning Refinancing of Village Debt Certificates

Mayor Andrews stated that Dave Philips, from Speer Financial, is present at the meeting this evening to answer any questions the Board members may have regarding refinancing of the Village's debt certificates. Mayor Andrews further stated that there are three outstanding debt certificates: (1) a 1997 obligation bond that was approved by the voters to finance road work in the town and in connection with that bond was the ability to add to the property tax to the extent to pay off that bond. The bond is due to expire in the year 2011.

He noted that money is coming in from those property taxes to pay off that debt for road work; (2) a 2001 debt certificate that is due to expire in the year 2012; and (3) a 2003 debt certificate that is due to expire in the year 2016. Mayor Andrews stated that the Village's total outstanding debt including the 1997 bond is between 1.3 to 1.4 million dollars. He noted that based on the Village's Equalized Assessed Valuation (EAV), the Village could go up to 13 million in debt. Mayor Andrews pointed out that the Village currently is only at about a 10% level of its authority to incur debt. He noted that one of the concerns after working on the budget last year was the fact that each year the payment increases and the 2003 debt certificate has a balloon payment at the end of the loan. In the year 2012 the payment is about \$75,000 towards principal and interest and it increases in the year 2013 to about \$178,000 in principal and interest. Mayor Andrews stated that in light of limited revenues to the Village, economic conditions and the fact that interest rates are lower, there is an opportunity to perhaps lower the interest rates by refinancing the debt. Mayor Andrews pointed out that due to budget concerns, the scarcity of revenues and increasing costs, the Village cannot wait to the last minute to decide how to address those additional costs. He noted that the price of fuel has increased, the price for road salt increased by 500% last year and other costs have increased.

Mayor Andrews stated that based on the proposal submitted by Dave Philips from Speer Financial as presented to the Board, the recommendations are: (1) to refinance the debt of the 2001 and 2003 certificates to combine both to one new debt certificate that would start in 2009 and would expire in ten years. The 1997 bond is about to be paid off, property tax revenue is coming in to pay off that bond and that debt certificate will not be included in refinancing; (2) to refund and to borrow an additional \$100,000 to be used towards projects that need to be completed in the Village; (3) to refund the debt and to borrow \$200,000. Mayor Andrews stated that based on the numbers, his recommendation to the Board is to authorize Speer Financial on the Village's behalf to refund the 2001 and 2003 debt certificates and to borrow \$100,000. He noted that a portion of the funds could possibly be used for projects that have been deferred that are in need of attention including the repaving of the Municipal Facility parking lot areas that have rapidly deteriorated. He noted there is a second well in the Village that needs to be either maintained or property capped.

Trustee Coleman stated that rates are constantly changing based on economic conditions and she inquired if the Village does not like the rate that comes in can the rate be rejected. She also asked if the Village is obligated to take the entire amount of the money that is borrowed or if a part of the money can be used. Dave Philips, from Speer Financial, stated that now is the time to make a decision about the level of new money to be obtained due to favorable interest rates. He noted that after the bid is received, the refunding of the bond can either be accepted or rejected and a determination can be made whether to proceed. Trustee Coleman asked if the bond can be prepaid. Mr. Philips responded, yes. Trustee Coleman stated that she previously asked about the fees to Speer Financial to handle the debt certificate refinancing as well as the fee for bond counsel. The amount quoted was approximately \$5,000 for Speer Financial and \$5,000 for bond counsel. Trustee Walsh asked if the rates have significantly increased since the proposal was submitted to the Board by Speer Financial. Mr. Philips stated that interest rates are gradually inching up due to recovery in the market. Trustee Walsh asked when a rate would need to be locked in for the Village to proceed with the refinancing of the bonds.

Mr. Philips stated that the Village would need to authorize Speer Financial to seek bids so that bond counsel could prepare an ordinance for the Board's consideration and the rate would not be locked in until the Board acted upon accepting or rejecting the bid that would include the rate.

Mayor Andrews stated that the next Board meeting is July 9th and he asked if Speer Financial could go out for bid on July 7th. Mr. Philips stated that July 7th would be too early to seek bids. He mentioned that during a holiday week the market is slow, there is not much activity and the best time to go out for bid would be after that time period. Trustee Bailey inquired if the Board would only be authorizing Speer Financial this evening to go out for bid and the Board can always accept or reject the bid at a later date. Mr. Philips responded, yes. Trustee Schnaufer inquired if there is an average time period from the time the Village would accept the bid to the time the Village would actually receive the money. Mr. Philips stated that if the Board accepted the bid in the middle of July the funds would be available by the end of July. Mayor Andrews stated that the Board only meets once a month. He pointed out that counsel advised that if the market is favorable for the Village to act based on recommendations from Speer Financial, the Board could call a special meeting to vote on the matter. Mayor Andrews stated that interest rates are historically low and it would be beneficial for the Village to act as soon as possible. He asked Mr. Philips to determine whether the bid process could take place sooner.

Mayor Andrews stated that the current bond payment in the year 2012 would be about \$130,000 and in the year 2013 the bond payment would be about \$178,000. He noted that even with refinancing and borrowing \$100,000 in the bond year of 2012 the payment would be at \$61,000 and in the year 2013 the bond payment would be \$148,000. Mayor Andrews pointed out that the current 2001 debt certificate is due to expire in 2012 and the 2003 debt certificate would expire in 2016. He noted that the Village would save about \$401,000 from refinancing the bonds from the current date through 2015. Mayor Andrews stated that the cost of the new bonds from the current date to the year 2020 would cost \$710,000 due to several years that are added at the end of the payment schedule. He added that the cost of the refinancing is approximately \$9,500 per year over a ten year period, the immediate budget crunch will be addressed and perhaps in later years the revenue situation and economic conditions will improve so the certificate can possibly be paid sooner. Mayor Andrews stated that the Board is not locked into any decision at this time and the Board can either accept or reject the bid at the next meeting based on the rate that is presented at that time.

Mayor Andrews entertained a motion to direct Speer Financial and bond counsel to obtain bids to refinance the 2001 and 2003 debt certificates and to borrow an additional \$100,000. Trustee Schnaufer moved, seconded by Trustee Bermier, to authorize and direct Speer Financial and bond counsel to obtain bids to refinance the Village's 2001 and 2003 debt certificates and to borrow \$100,000. Carried by unanimous roll call vote (6/0/0).

Ayes: Trustees: Anselmo, Bailey, Bermier, Coleman, Schnaufer, Walsh

Nays: None

Absent: None

Mayor Andrews thanked Mr. Philips from Speer Financial for providing a proposal to the Board regarding refinancing of the Village's debt certificates.

2. Discussion and Possible Vote Regarding 2009/2010 Village Budget

Mayor Andrews stated that the Board received a copy of the proposed budget for fiscal year 2009/2010. Mayor Andrews further stated that the total operating budget of the Village is approximately 3.5 million dollars. He noted that approximately \$825,000 in revenue is received from property taxes and the rest of the revenue is received from various fees and revenue sharing. Mayor Andrews stated that real estate taxes amount to about 23% of the operating budget. He noted that the draft budget is a lean budget and he asked Frank Alonzo to provide a report to the Board regarding the budget. Frank Alonzo stated that he and Dave Brink worked hard to provide a lean budget to present to the Board, a few items were taken out of the budget and there are no other items than can be deleted to reduce the budget.

Mayor Andrews stated that the fiscal year is May 1, 2009 to April 30, 2010, the proposed anticipated revenue for the 2009/2010 budget is 3.6 million dollars and expenditures are 3,655,000. He noted that the shortfall in revenue is about \$55,000. Mayor Andrews noted that last year the Village approved a balanced budget with a surplus in revenue of a few hundred dollars. He noted that due to the extraordinary costs for road salt last year, among other expenses, the shortfall in the budget last year was about \$62,000. Mayor Andrews pointed out that he suggested refinancing the debt certificates so that money is available. He noted that the difference between the debt certificates at the current rate and the amount the Village would be paying through refinancing would save the Village about \$40,000. Mayor Andrews stated that every level of government, schools and other agencies are dealing with the same budget crisis this year during difficult economic times and it is difficult to balance a budget. He added that hopefully the economic situation will improve and the Village will be prudent in how it receives revenue and how that money will be spent. Mayor Andrews asked the Board if there are any comments or suggestions either to increase revenues or decrease expenses.

Trustee Coleman asked Dave Brink if the Village received the anticipated share of property tax revenue as set forth in the budget last year. Dave Brink stated that the Village has been receiving its share of projected real estate tax revenue and there has not been a downturn in revenue over the years. He noted that the bulk of the real estate tax revenue is received within a four to five week period after the tax payment deadline and the remaining funds are received as late tax payments are made to Cook County. Dave Brink stated that the real estate property tax revenue amount from Cook County has not decreased over the years. Trustee Coleman stated that the Village spends approximately \$40,000 per year on the annual leaf program (\$25,000 is non labor related costs and about \$15,000 towards labor expenses). Trustee Coleman stated that it may be time to consider eliminating the leaf program, it is an expensive program each year, the cost of the program does not include fuel for the trucks, wear and tear on the vehicles and equipment maintenance costs. Trustee Coleman further stated that costs keep going up and if the leaf program costs \$40,000 this year it may be more next year. She noted that some areas of the Village take advantage of the leaf program, but many other areas of the Village do not utilize the program.

Trustee Coleman stated that she discussed the leaf program with Superintendent Santen and a one-time pick was possibly suggested. However, due to weather conditions and other circumstances it is almost impossible to arrange a pick-up because leaves fall from the trees at different times.

Trustee Coleman stated that she would rather have the leaf program eliminated instead of eliminating one or several of the Village employees. She added that the Board is not voting on approving the budget this evening and would welcome any comments from the Board relating to the public works budget. Mayor Andrews stated that the Village operates with a lean labor force in all departments and is not contemplating the layoff of any employee. He noted that the police department currently has five full-time police officers and is short one full-time sergeant, Frank Alonzo serves part-time in the capacity of police chief and Village administrator and he does a terrific job in both positions. He noted that the cost involved with having a person in that position individually on a full-time basis would cost the Village substantially more money. Mayor Andrews stated that although cutting labor cost would be an instant savings, in the long run it would hurt the Village especially when you have personnel who are veteran employees who know what to do to get the job done. He added that there is no control over gasoline costs and costs keep increasing, salt increased 500% last year and in response to that increase, the Village needed to increase the vehicle tag fees by \$15.00 per vehicle. Mayor Andrews stated that some residents may be unhappy about that decision but the alternative would be not to plow or buy salt to maintain Village streets.

Trustee Bermier stated that when she first came on the Board back in the 1980's there was no leaf program in the Village at that time. Trustee Bailey stated that he is a homeowner in the area of the Village that utilizes the leaf program. He further stated that there would be a huge outcry from residents if the leaf program is discontinued especially since the Village is recognized as a tree preservation community. Trustee Bailey stated that the cost to the Village would be substantially more if the Village does not pick up the leaves because people may just dump them in the street. He added that there are items in the budget that can be cut to keep the leaf program. Trustee Coleman stated that many homeowners have landscape companies that remove the leaves from their properties as part of the fall clean-up. Trustee Coleman stated that there are other options for property owners including bagging of the leaves to be removed by their refuse company, landscape services to remove the leaves or though mulching them back into the lawn.

Mayor Andrews stated that there are also expenses involved in repair and maintenance of the leaf program equipment. He noted that other items and debris are sometimes mixed with the leaves that cause mechanical breakdowns of the machine. Superintendent Santen stated that if the Village decides to keep the leaf program, additional manpower is needed including possible Saturdays that may be needed due to weather conditions that may delay the pick-up. He noted that there was about a 20% increase from the previous year in the volume of leaves collected, about 2,200 cubic yards. He stated that possibly landscape companies are dumping leaves in the Village's right-of-way and the Village has to pay the dumping fees. Superintendent Santen stated that even though the Village follows the schedule for leaf pick-up and finishes one area, the crews often need to return to the same area because there are more leaves.

He added that for the amount of manpower that the public works department has the employees do a terrific job and staff works hard to take care of the Village.

Mayor Andrews stated that possibly the leaf program could start later with only one pass through town and to end the program by Thanksgiving. At that time, each homeowner would be responsible for removing their own leaves. Trustee Coleman stated as Superintendent Santen mentioned previously that additional manpower is needed to complete the leaf program and Saturdays would mean more over-time and expenses than the \$40,000 budgeted amount for the program. Trustee Coleman stated that the public works department does an excellent job and there will always be someone who says their leaves were not picked up. Trustee Bermier suggested that possibly the Village could establish a fee for leaf pick-up and charge those residents who want the leaves picked up. Mayor Andrews stated that there are also costs to change over the equipment from plowing and salting to the leaf equipment.

Mayor Andrews asked Trustee Schnaufer, as Finance/Administration Trustee, to receive further budget input and suggestions from the Board. He asked the Board members to provide any budget input to Trustee Schnaufer by June 23, 2009. Trustee Schnaufer asked if the Village approves the budget with a deficit, can the Village revisit the budget at the end of the year to decide whether the budget should be revised. Mayor Andrews stated that the Village is not required to have a budget and it is a tool provided to the board to track revenues and expenditures. He added that the Board is required to formally adopt an appropriations ordinance. Counsel Ramello pointed out that the appropriations ordinance sets forth the maximum amount of money a Village can spend and the budget is a guideline for spending. Trustee Schnaufer inquired if the appropriations ordinance can be amended. Counsel Ramello stated that in order to increase the appropriations ordinance, an additional unanticipated source of revenue would be needed.

3. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Village's 50th Anniversary Celebration

Mayor Andrews stated that Saturday, August 8, 2009 the Village will be celebrating its 50th anniversary at Blackhawk Park from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. He noted that Trustee Coleman and Trustee Bermier have made arrangements for entertainment, the Jesse White Tumblers will perform at 4:00 p.m., the Pleasantview Fire Protection District will provide a display, the Cook County Sheriff's Department Canine Unit has been invited to perform and Village Clerk Joe Consolo will try to make arrangements for the Medinah Shriner Clowns to be present. Trustee Bailey stated that he contacted Burke Beverage Company regarding prices for beer and he needs to know the quantity to order. Trustee Bailey added that he spoke to a vendor about hot dogs and chips, he has not heard back from that vendor and the same company also withdrew from some baseball leagues.

Mayor Andrews stated that further information regarding the Village's 50th anniversary will be provided when details are finalized. Trustee Walsh asked if the Village needs to rent a tent. Mayor Andrews stated that the Village owns one tent and the West Central Municipal Conference polled several communities but those towns that have tents do not rent them out. Trustee Bermier mentioned that the Village previously had summer picnics and concerts in the park and a beer tent was provided for one of those events.

Mayor Andrews stated that a 50th anniversary happens once in a town's history and there will be a celebration just as a celebration that was hosted for the Village's 25th and 40th anniversary. He further stated that letters were sent to various organizations and vendors asking for financial assistance to the Village's 50th anniversary celebration.

QUESTIONS AND/OR COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE - INDIAN HEAD PARK RESIDENTS REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Karen Shaver, of 6473 Blackhawk Trail, stated that she has a lot of trees on her property and Indian Head Park has very wooded areas. She further stated that it would not be unreasonable to ask residents to subsidize the leaf program by paying a fee. Karen Shaver stated that if a fee of possibly \$100.00 per resident was established for leaf pick-up many residents may not have a problem paying that fee. She added that the fee would not cover the entire cost of the program but it would certainly help to cover some of the costs of a leaf program.

Karen Shaver asked about the well that was discussed earlier in the meeting and costs to maintain or cap the well. She asked if the Village uses water from that well or receives Lake Michigan water. Mayor Andrews stated that the existing well in the Village does not provide water to tap and the entire water supply is Lake Michigan water that is received from the City of Countryside. Superintendent Santen stated that the existing well has not been used since 1983 and is only in place in the case of an emergency. Karen Shaver stated that she has a drainage issue and water problem on her property which involves a couple of neighbors. She further stated that Frank Alonzo, Ed Santen and Bill McConaughy visited her property to determine what can be done to correct the water problems that are occurring. Mayor Andrews stated that he received a briefing from Frank Alonzo who visited the property and a report will be provided by the Village engineer on the matter. Karen Shaver asked that the matter be addressed in an expedient matter due to the heavy rain season that has occurred this year. Frank Alonzo stated that the report should be sent to the Village by next week and once the opinion letter from the engineer is received it will be provided to the property owner. Frank Alonzo stated there may be some property line issues, storm water discharge from an adjacent property and a berm that was constructed on a neighboring property. He noted that the engineering report will be sent by Christopher Burke Engineering and a response will be provided to the property owner.

Karen Shaver stated that she has never attended a Board meeting before and she commented that everyone should come to a meeting to learn what is happening in the Village. She further stated that if more residents attended meetings there would be more of a sense of how the Board has to deal with many issues on many levels. Mayor Andrews stated that all meetings are open to the public, the agenda is always posted on the Village's Website or available at the Village Offices and the meetings take place the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Room. Mayor Andrews stated minutes from all the meetings are also posted on the Village Website as well as minutes that are printed in a reduced format in the *Smoke Signals Newsletter*.

Trustee Bermier asked when the Board would have to decide whether to cut the leaf program and she asked if residents would be informed there would be discussion about eliminating the leaf program since there is only one Board meeting a month.

Trustee Coleman stated that a formal agenda is always posted on the Village's Website prior to each meeting including the topics to be discussed and voted upon. She added that the Board needs to take into consideration the entire Village when trying to balance the expense of the program and the benefit to the Village. She added that there will always be someone who is not happy with a decision by the Board. Trustee Bermier stated that there may be some senior citizens that may be upset if the leaf program is discontinued. Trustee Schnaufer stated that it is a great idea to charge a fee for leaf pick-up if the Village decides to continue the program. Trustee Coleman stated that it may not be possible to implement a fee to continue the program to cover all of the costs of the leaf program. Karen Shaver stated that more people may benefit from the leaf program than from paving the Municipal Facility parking lot. Trustee Coleman stated that there are meetings held at the Municipal Facility by associations and various committees and boards. She further stated that the Municipal Facility is a public use building, the parking lot is becoming a hazard, the pavement is severely deteriorated and many areas are in need of repairs. Mayor Andrews stated that if the pavement work at the Municipal Facility costs about \$50,000 that will last for several years and the police department also conducts business with visitors to the building. He pointed out that \$40,000 for a leaf program is for one year and a leaf program next year will be another \$40,000 or more.

Karen Shaver stated that if the leaf program is discontinued many residents may just rake the leaves into the street and create a roadway hazard. Trustee Bermier suggested that possibly residents could sign up for the leaf program at the Village Hall and pay the appropriate fee for leaf pick-up. Mayor Andrews stated that the Board will review the budget in its entirety and he asked counsel if a special service district area could be established to continue the leaf program. Counsel Ramello stated that a special service district petition provides that if 51% of the people residing in that special service area opposed the imposition of the tax, the tax would be defeated if the majority is not willing to pay the tax. Trustee Coleman asked if the Village could establish a user fee under a special service district area. Counsel Ramello stated that some communities have a landscape/waste fee that is charged to residents and in order to establish a special service area tax, the Village Board would have to approve the boundaries of a special service area and approve a fee for that area. He added that there is also a period of time in which residents in the special service area can file a petition. If 51% of the voters within a certain period of time in that special service area oppose a special tax, the tax cannot be imposed.

Trustee Coleman asked if the Village approves a special service district area tax how long would the residents have to file a petition regarding the tax. Counsel Ramello stated that the period of time is between sixty (60) to ninety (90) days for petitions to be filed and if the special service area tax would be approved and imposed this year, the fee would not be collected until the 2011 tax year. Counsel Ramello stated that the tax levy passed in December of each year would need to include the special service area tax to appear on the following year tax bill. Trustee Coleman stated that there may be problems in determining an appropriate fee due to program costs that may increase each year. Mayor Andrews asked if the fee to be determined would be based on assessed valuation of the property or a flat rate that is established. Counsel Ramello stated that property taxes are generally levied based on Equalized Assessed Valuation.

Karen Shaver stated that she would have no problem with paying a fee for services but would object to raising taxes to pay for a program. Trustee Walsh stated that there may be five people that come in to sign up for the leaf pick-up program to pay a fee and the program cost is about \$40,000. He pointed out that there is a budget deficit and the Board needs to decide how the cost would be shared by residents who benefit from the program if the leaf program is to be continued. Trustee Walsh stated that the Village is not a private company who can just send bills out for leaf program services and it might become difficult to manage a program on a pay per person basis. He added that a special service area could be determined and residents in that area can decide whether they oppose or are in favor of a special service area tax.

Donna Smolek, of 24 Elmwood Drive, stated that she is a new member of the Acacia Board and is attending the meeting this evening to discuss a few items that came up at an Acacia meeting. Donna Smolek stated that the Cook County Highway Department has been trimming some of the trees along Wolf Road from Indian Ridge to Ashbrook and she asked if there is a schedule for tree trimming that the County follows. Superintendent Santen stated that the Cook County Highway Department is responsible for trimming trees along Wolf Road and Commonwealth Edison routinely trims trees on Wolf Road that are close to their power lines every two to three years. Trustee Walsh asked if there is a specific problem with trees along Wolf Road. Donna Smolek stated that there were complaints from Acacia residents that the trees along Wolf Road have grown so much that the trees hang over Wolf Road and they are in need of trimming. Trustee Coleman asked Superintendent Santen to contact the Cook County Highway Department to request that any tree trimming and brush clean-up work be completed along Wolf Road from Joliet Road to Plainfield Road. Donna Smolek stated that some residents of Acacia also had concerns about the increase in vehicle sticker fees and she asked if residents who do not buy stickers could be fined. She mentioned that there may be several residents in Acacia alone that do not buy Village stickers.

Donna Smolek stated that there are several curb areas in Acacia that are severely crumbling in various spots and those areas are in need of repairs. She asked if a list of the locations needs to be provided to the Board for the matter to be addressed. Mayor Andrews asked that the list be provided to Frank Alonzo. Mayor Andrews stated that there are also other areas throughout the Village that have curbs deteriorating that are in need of repairs and the Village Board must prioritize projects based on available budget funding. He added that the Board is hopeful that money will come back to the town from the capital infrastructure improvement program and those funds have to be allocated to specific projects. Mayor Andrews stated that street repairs is high on the list of projects to be completed. He noted that the water department needs to replace a vehicle but there are no funds in the budget at this time. Donna Smolek stated that some of the signs throughout Acacia are weathered and are in need of maintenance or painting. Trustee Coleman stated that she would ask Superintendent Santen to determine whether the Acacia signage is in need of maintenance. Trustee Bermier asked Donna Smolek if the cars without vehicle stickers that she mentioned are in the Acacia cul-de-sac areas. Donna Smolek stated that Acacia residents who bought stickers for their cars voiced concerns and asked why people who do not buy Village stickers are not ticketed by the police.

Chief Alonzo stated that the Village purchases a list periodically from the Secretary of State's Office of cars registered in the Village of Indian Head Park. He noted that pre-printed forms for each vehicle at that address are sent on May 1st each year to renew the vehicle sticker. If the vehicle sticker is not purchased, a notice of violation is sent and penalties will apply. Chief Alonzo mentioned that the list is also provided to the police department for enforcement purposes and tickets will be issued to those that are in violation. Finance Director Dave Brink stated that June 30th is the deadline date to purchase and display vehicle stickers and officers have issued several tickets to owners that did not have a current sticker displayed for the previous year.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Trustee Walsh moved, seconded by Trustee Coleman, to adjourn the regular Board meeting at 9:00 p.m. Carried by unanimous voice vote (6/0/0).

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathy Leach, Deputy Clerk/Recording Secretary